



# Supporting Shellfish Aquaculture in the Chesapeake Using Artificial Intelligence to Detect Poor Water Quality through Sampling and Remote Sensing

**Stephanie Schollaert Uz<sup>1</sup>**

Troy Ames<sup>1</sup>, Nargess Memarsadeghi<sup>1</sup>,  
Amita Mehta<sup>1,2</sup>, Guangming Zheng<sup>2,3</sup>, Shannon  
McDonnell<sup>2</sup>, Neil Blough<sup>2</sup>, John McKay<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Goddard Space Flight Center

<sup>2</sup>University of Maryland

<sup>3</sup>National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

<sup>4</sup>Maryland Department of Environment



# Advanced Information Systems Technology project began in 2020

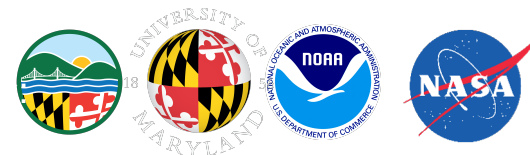
Aquaculture is a growing industry around the Bay and world-wide – resources managers monitor water quality from boats to spot-check for problems. Remote sensing may provide early warning of harmful algal blooms and polluted run-off



Optical techniques are explored to exploit new technology in complex environment

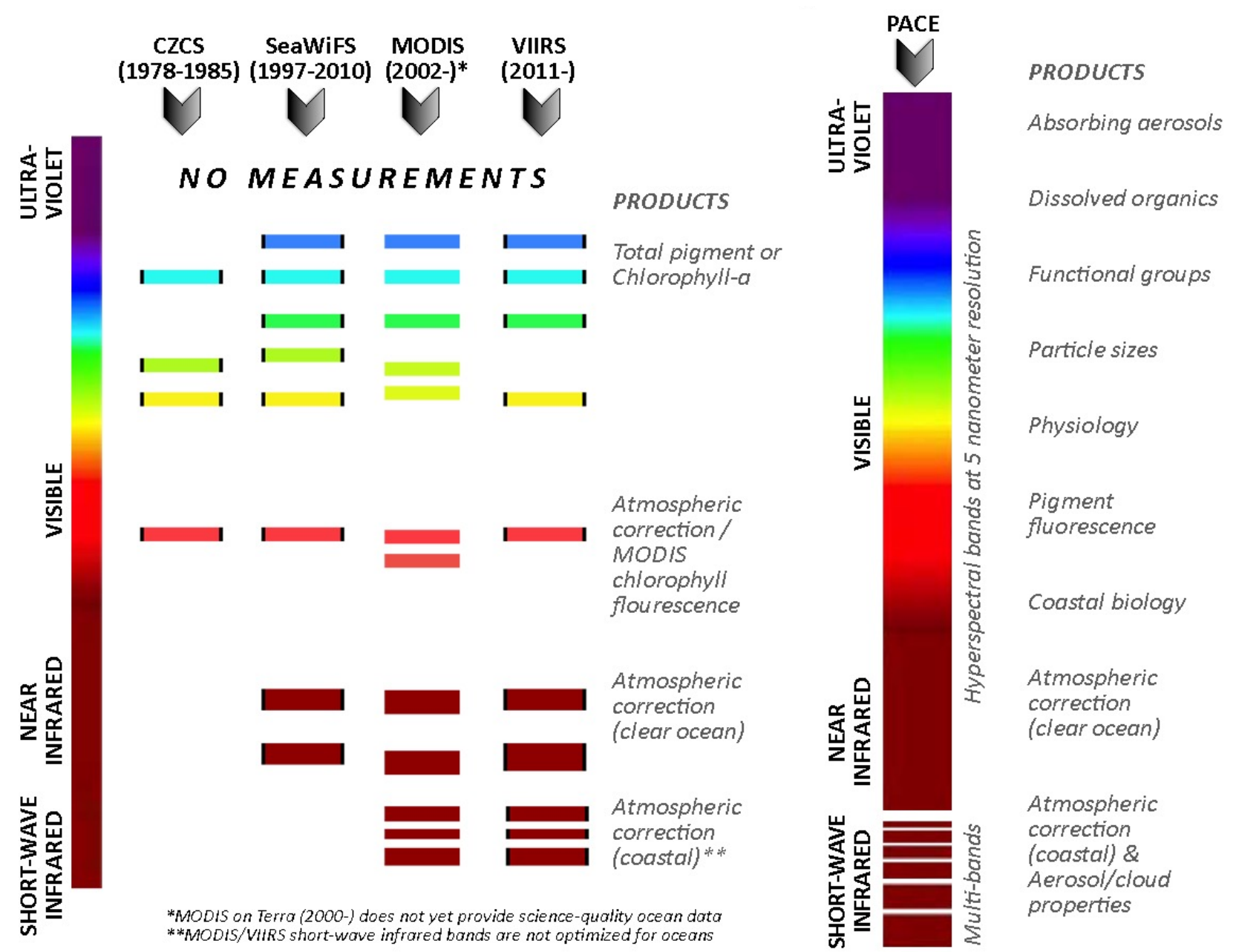
Developing AI combining observations, models, with satellite data

Photo credit: John 'Rusty' McKay/MDE





# Future space sensors will provide information about phytoplankton communities, ecosystem health



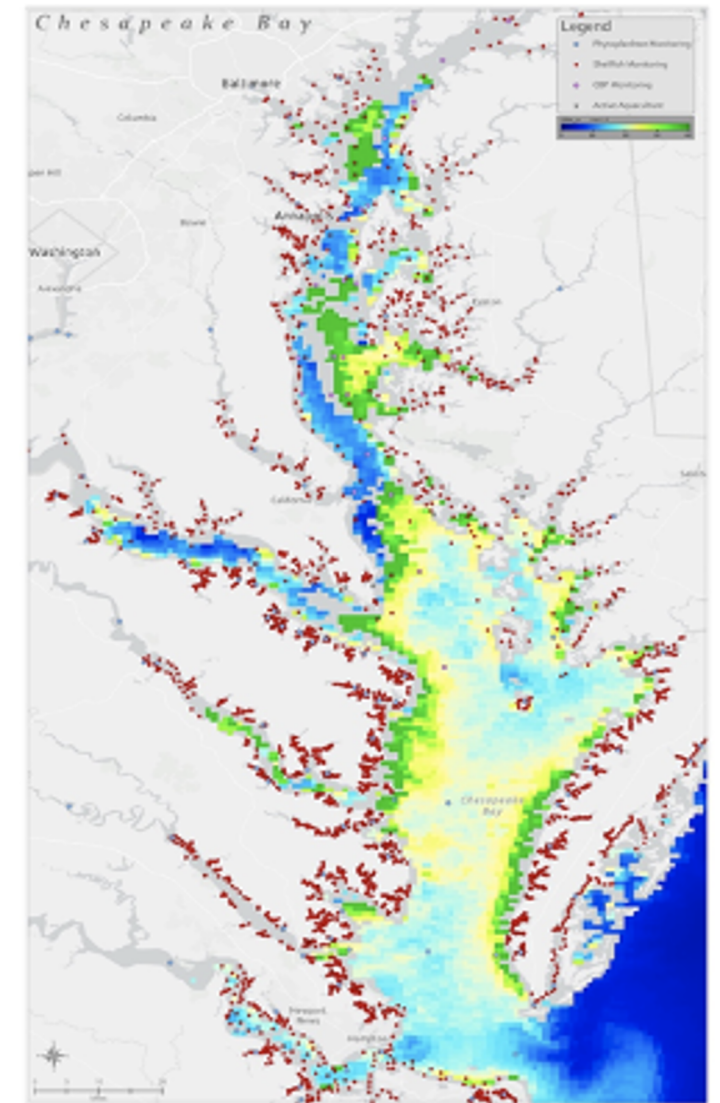


# Maryland water quality criteria for shellfish harvesting

Parameter name	Water Quality Threshold
Fecal coliform	<14 MPN median per100ml
Bacteriological <i>Escherichia coli</i>	< 410 count per 100ml
Dissolved oxygen	> 5 mg/l
Temperature	< 90°F/32°C
pH	6.5 - 8.5
Turbidity	<150 nephelometer turbidity units
Color	< 75 platinum cobalt units
Water clarity	> 13% (tidal fresh)

- National Water Quality Monitoring Council (NWQMC), Chesapeake Bay Program (CBP) data acquired (1984-present) for Chl-a, DO, Kd, pH, temperature, salinity, bacteria

<http://www.dsd.state.md.us/comar/comarhtml/26/26.08.02.03-3.htm>



MODIS chlorophyll-a map from July 2, 2019 with routine sampling sites by Maryland and Virginia superimposed

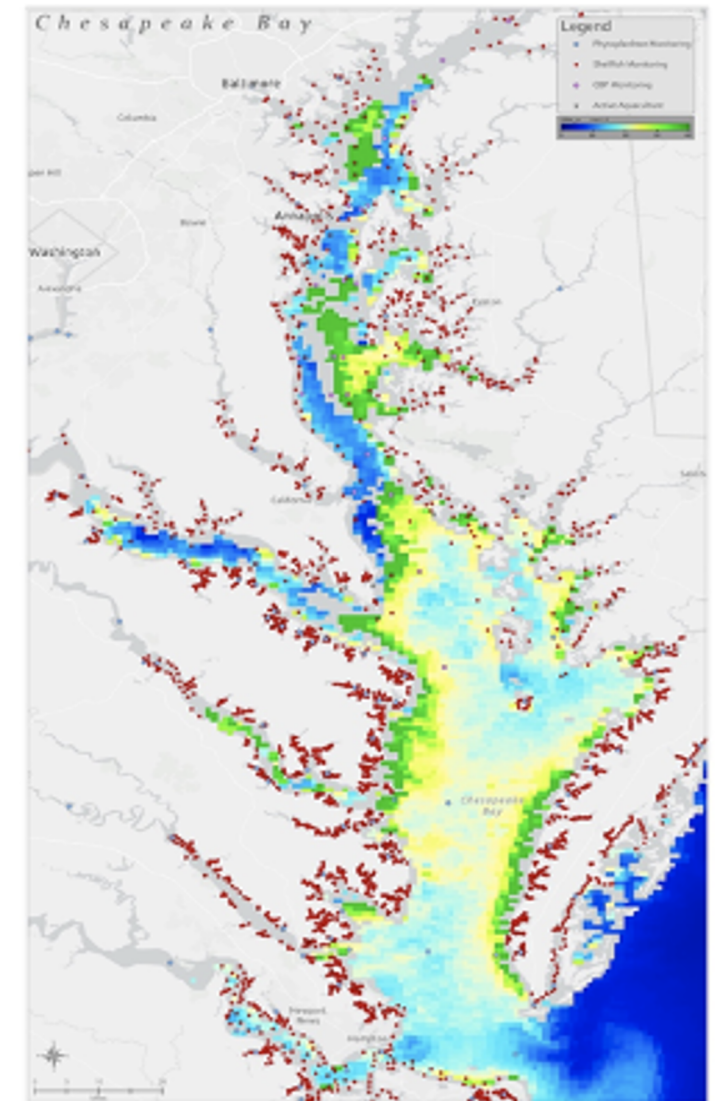


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- National Water Quality Monitoring Council (NWQMC), Chesapeake Bay Program (CBP) data acquired (1984-present) for Chl-a, DO, Kd, pH, temperature, salinity, bacteria
- Satellite data processed (Sentinel 3a&3b OLCI, Aqua MODIS) to derive Rrs, Chl-a, Kd, Rhos
- Exploring relationship between satellite spectral bands, low oxygen, high chlorophyll, turbidity
- Field and lab work impacted by COVID-19: future work will incorporate absorption and fluorescence of samples collected around the Bay

<http://www.dsd.state.md.us/comar/comarhtml/26/26.08.02.03-3.htm>

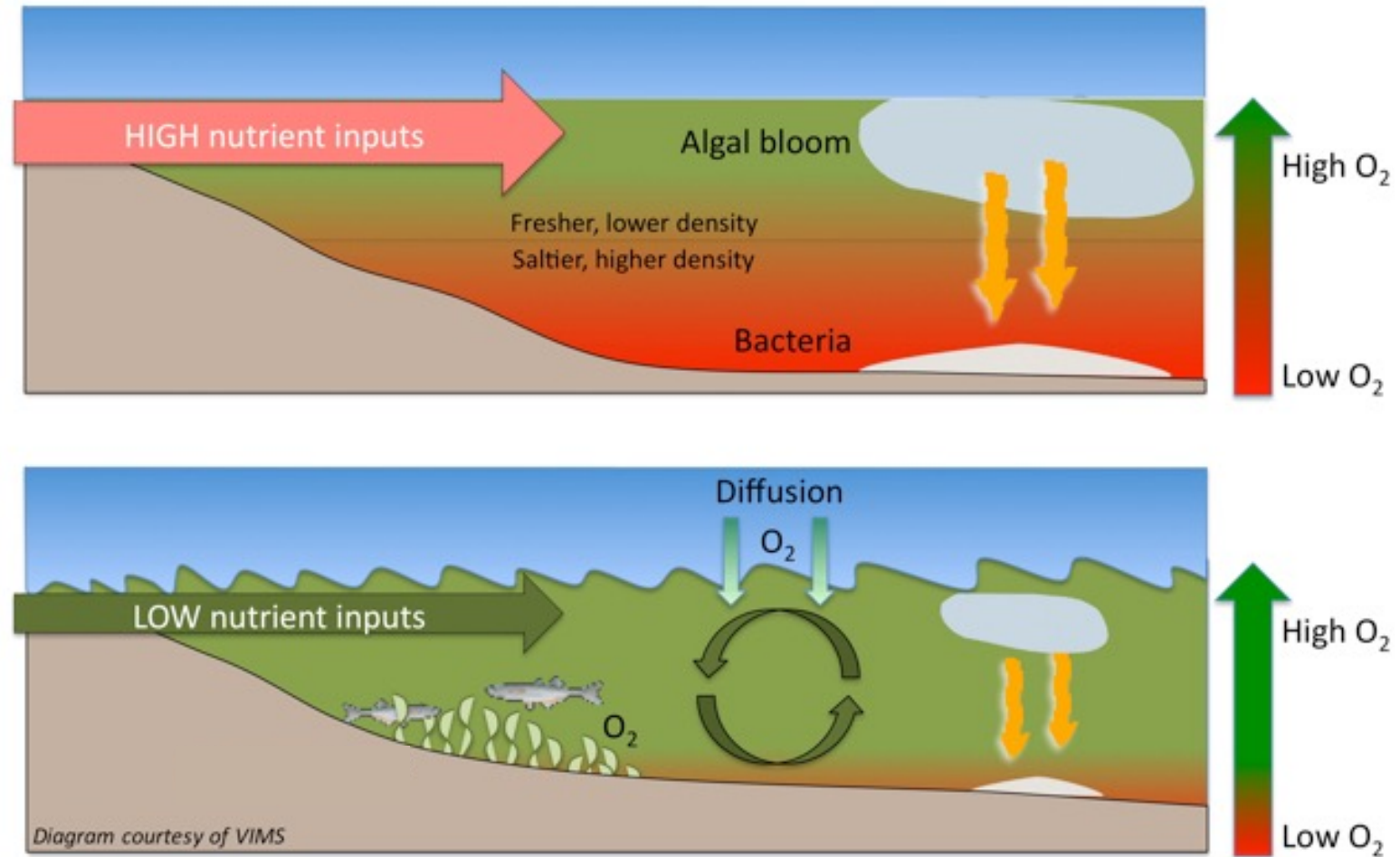


MODIS chlorophyll-a map from July 2, 2019 with routine sampling sites by Maryland and Virginia superimposed



# Low dissolved oxygen (hypoxia) as a proof-of-concept

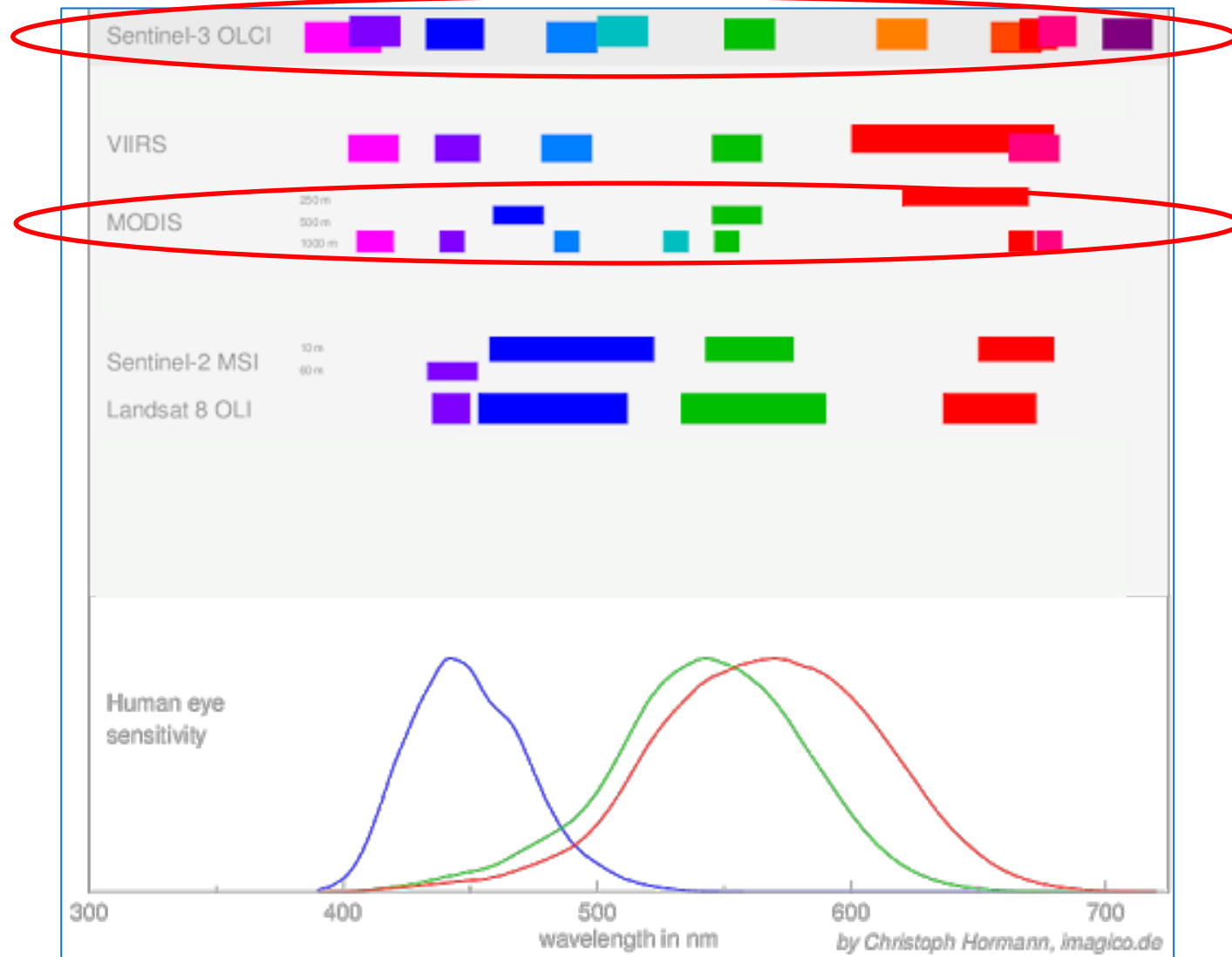
- Establish method for using optical remote sensing for water quality
- Low Dissolved Oxygen (Hypoxia) is large scale, seasonal problem related to biological and physical mechanisms, i.e. algal biomass decay with stratification
- Although not visible in remote sensing, train AI to recognize its precursors, test feasibility for water quality





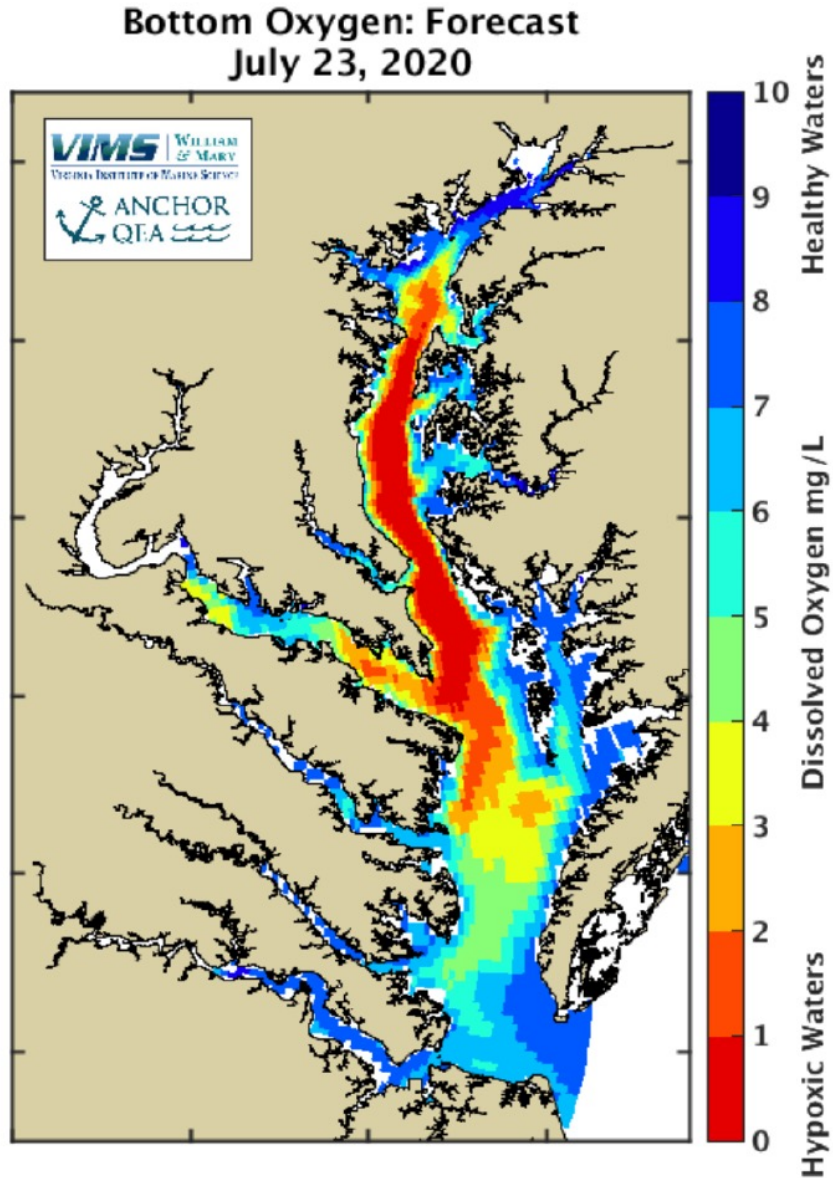
## Large phytoplankton blooms, seen at surface, precede hypoxia

- Nutrient run-off, large phytoplankton blooms, warming and stratification as precursors to low oxygen conditions
- Sentinel 3 OLCI (2016-present) currently best spectral resolution, esp. red edge
- Aqua MODIS (2002-present) has good spectral resolution, longest time series
- Chesapeake Bay is challenging for atmospheric correction or Rrs, Chl-a:
  - AERONET OC will soon be installed north of Bay Bridge for calibration
  - Use top of atmosphere reflectances minus Rayleigh scattering, Rhos
  - New CSDAP project will use acolite software to derive better options





# Train and validate machine learning with VIMS hypoxia model



**Blue** -> high bottom oxygen

**Yellow/green** -> marginal oxygen

**Red** -> very low bottom oxygen (hypoxia)

**Feature** variables:

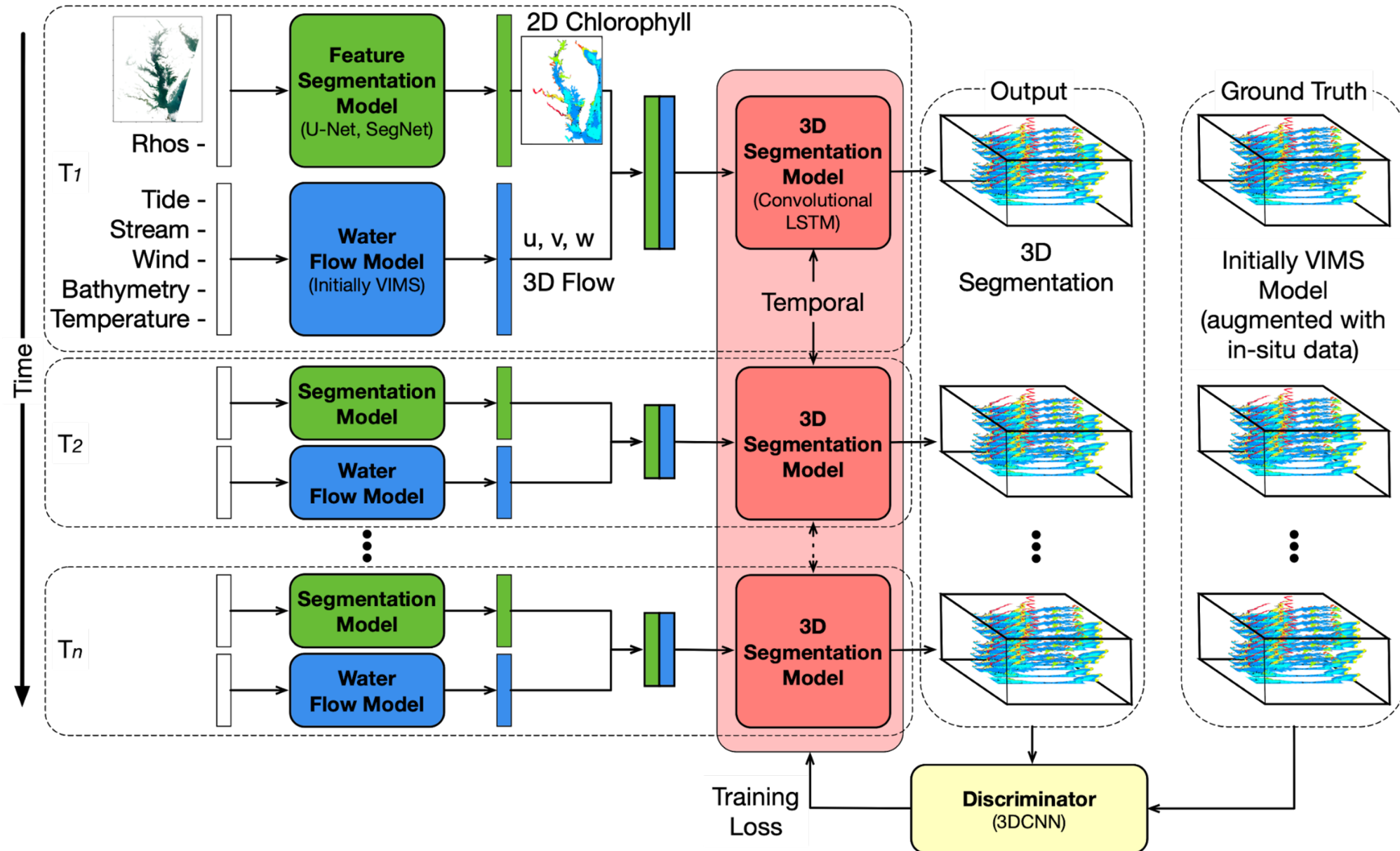
- **Satellite:** Rhos to indicate organic matter
- **ERA5:** wind (u & v)
- **VIMS:** currents (u, v, w), temperature (T), salinity (S)
- **Ancillary:** day of year for seasonal variations

**Label** variable: DO (from VIMS and CBP in situ data)

- 3-D array prediction for a region



# Integration of remote sensing into ML for hypoxia



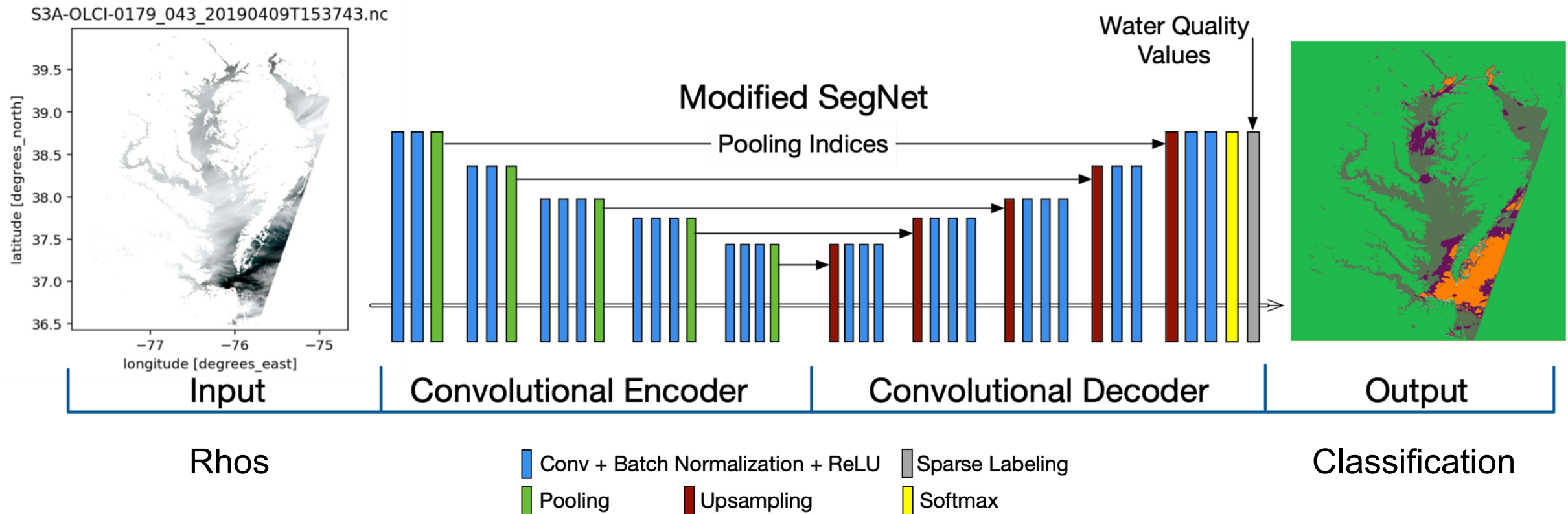


# Integration of remote sensing into ML for hypoxia

## Segmentation Model

## Water Quality Parameter Segmentation Feature Segmentation Model

Feature matching utilizing weakly annotated data (i.e., in situ measurements)

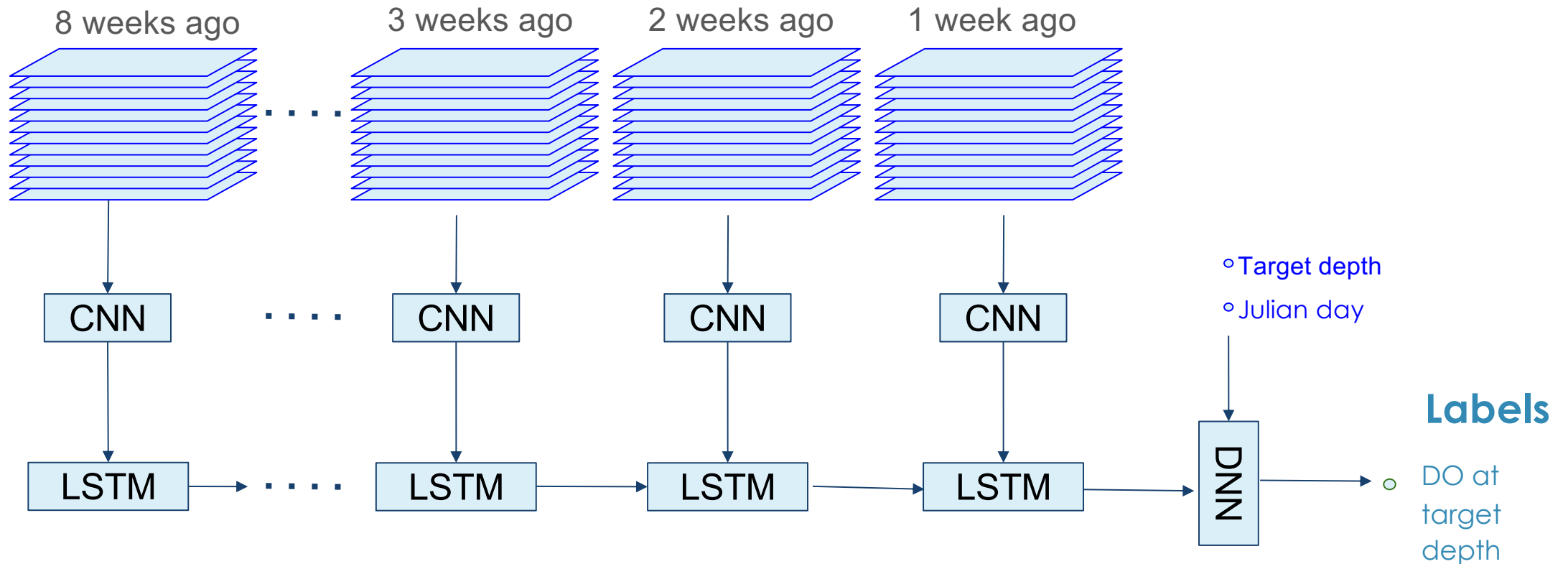




# ML architecture around a point of interest to root cause

## Features

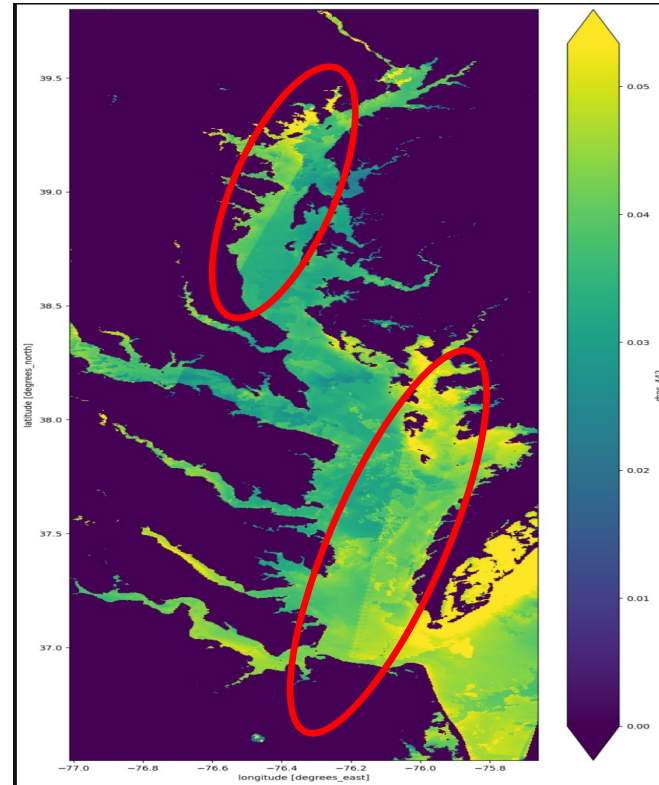
(MODIS)  
 $R_{\text{hos}}(\lambda, t)$   
 $u_{\text{wind}}(t)$   
 $v_{\text{wind}}(t)$   
 $u(z, t)$   
 $v(z, t)$   
 $w(z, t)$   
 $T(z, t)$   
 $S(z, t)$



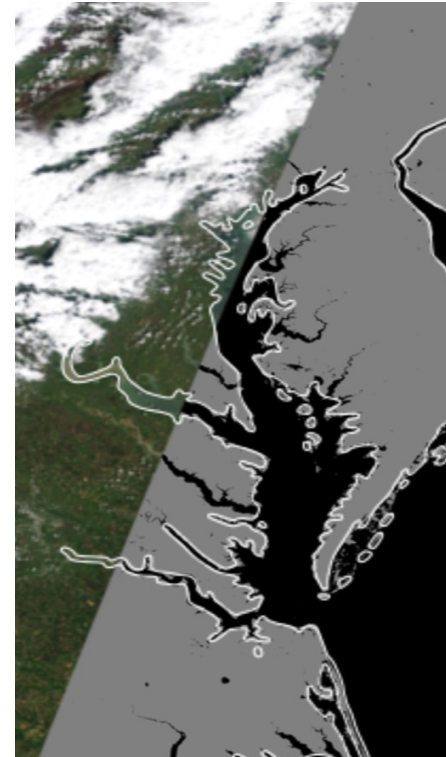


# Preparation of satellite data for bloom detection within ML

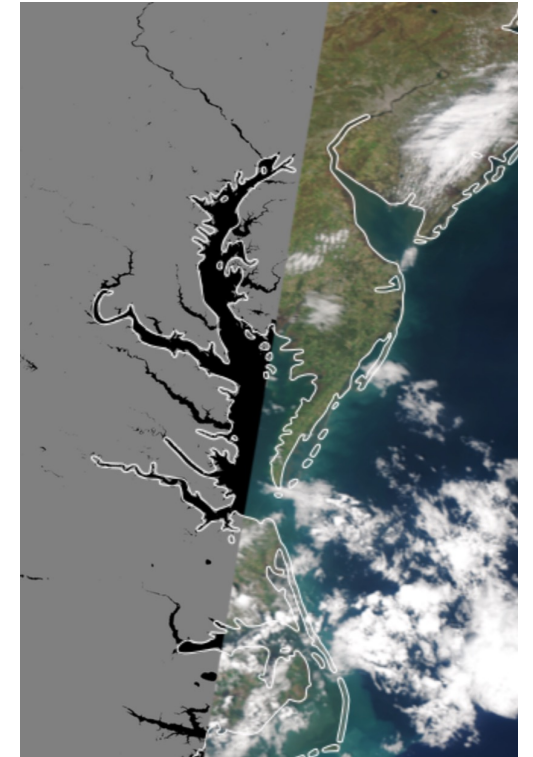
- First look: weekly composites of cloud-free Rhos
- Partial scenes create edges in composites
- Atmospheric gas and aerosol differences between scenes
- Daily scenes to resolve features



Sentinel-3A OLCI image  
2020/04/06



Sentinel-3B OLCI image  
2020/04/09

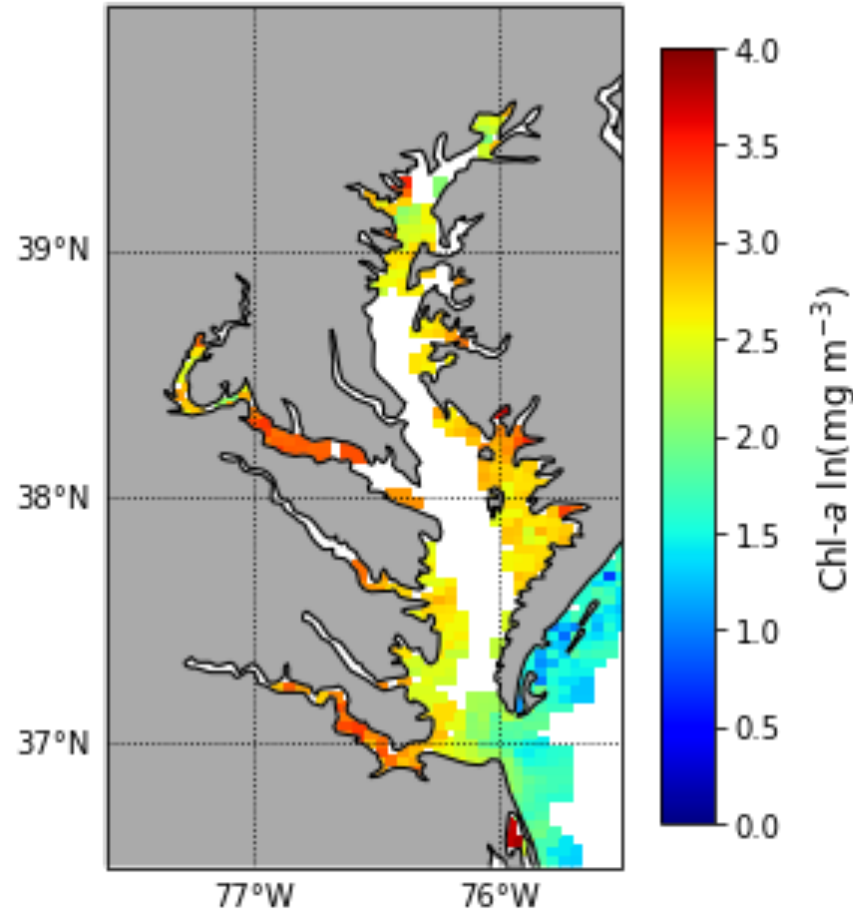




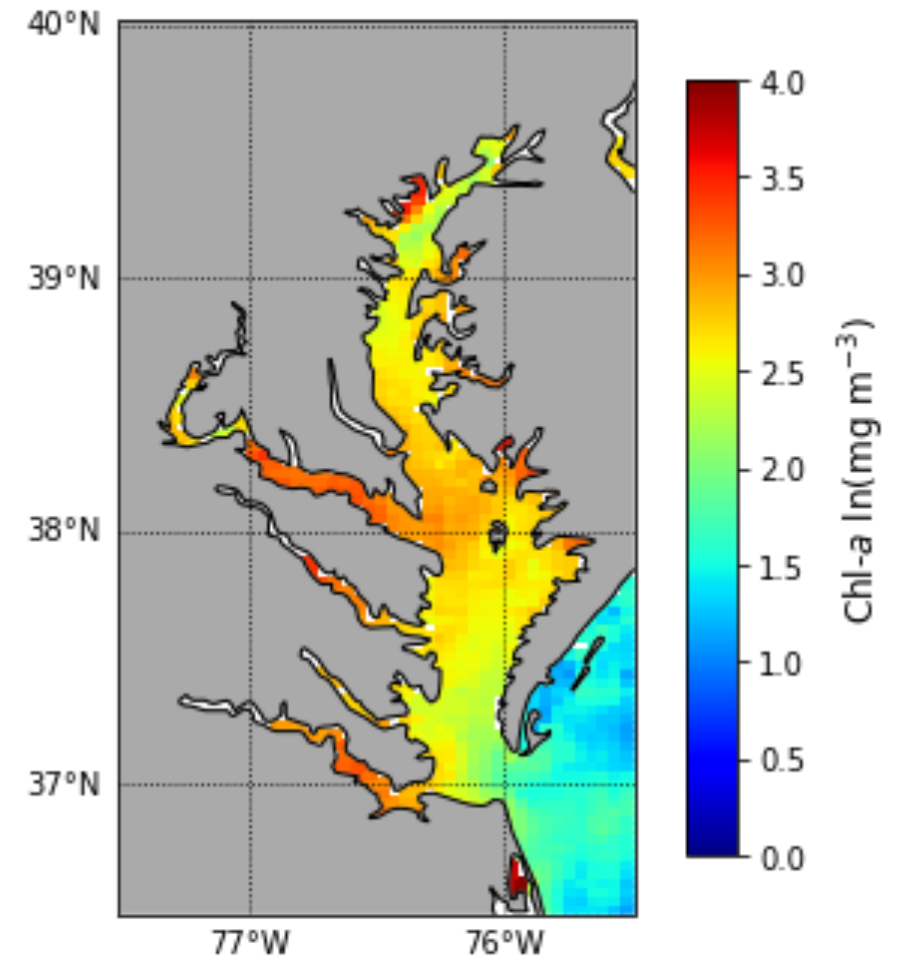
# Preparation of satellite data for integration into ML

Fill missing satellite data using best interpolation method, i.e. DINEOF

ln(Chl-a) before reconstruction  
2012-01-10

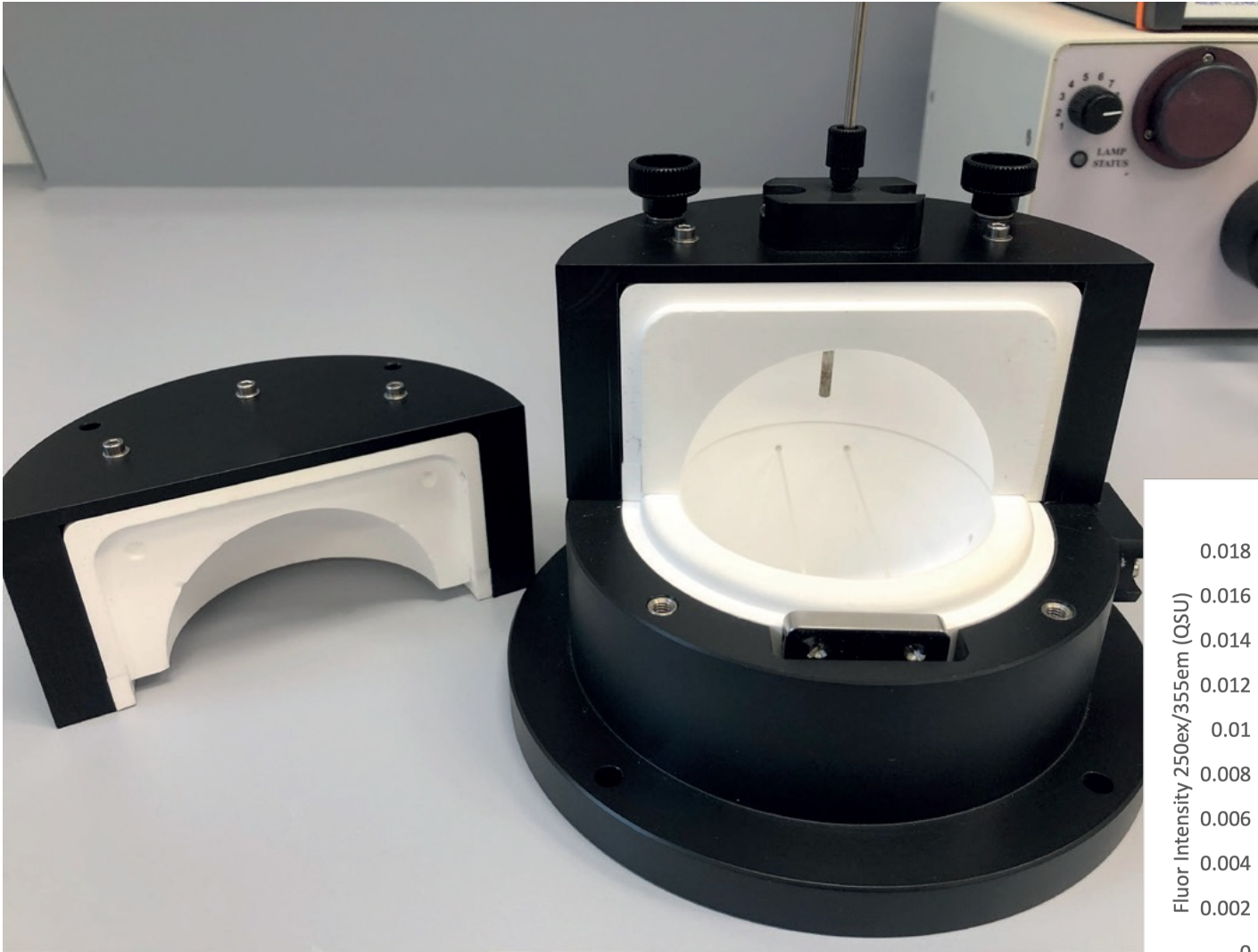


ln(Chl-a) after reconstruction  
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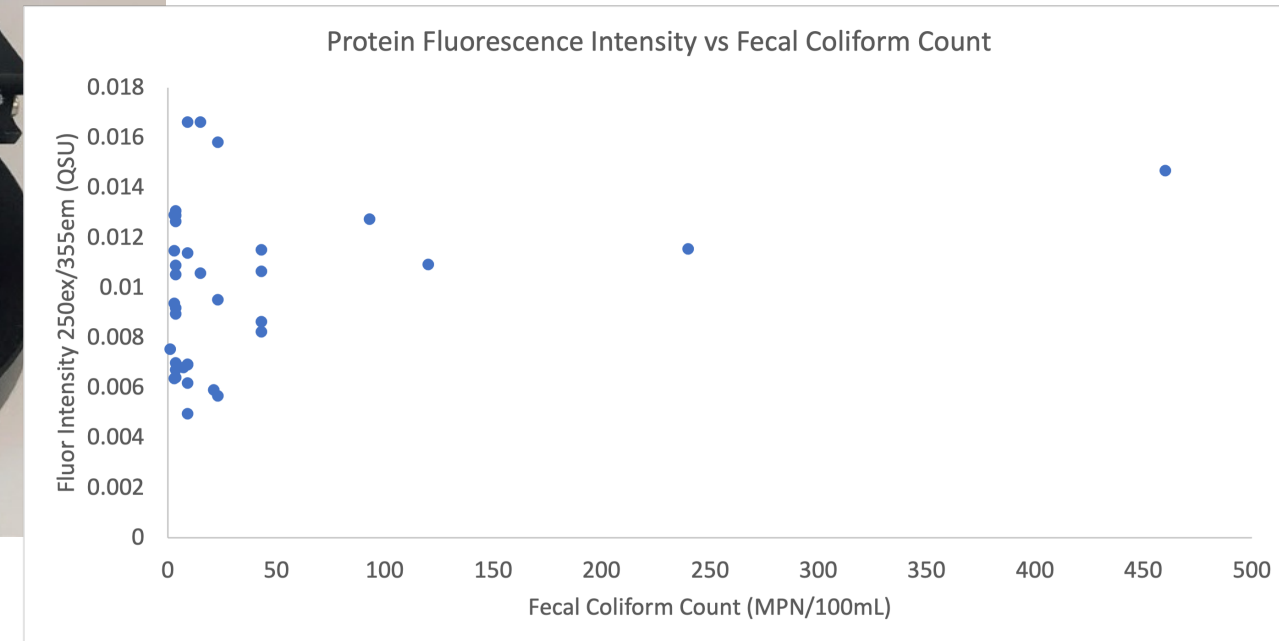




# Resume field & lab work for optical indicators of bacteria



- Literature shows correlation between E-coli enumeration and enhanced protein-like fluorescent peaks
- Protein-like peak, tryptophan-like fluorescence, at 250nm excitation and 355 emission



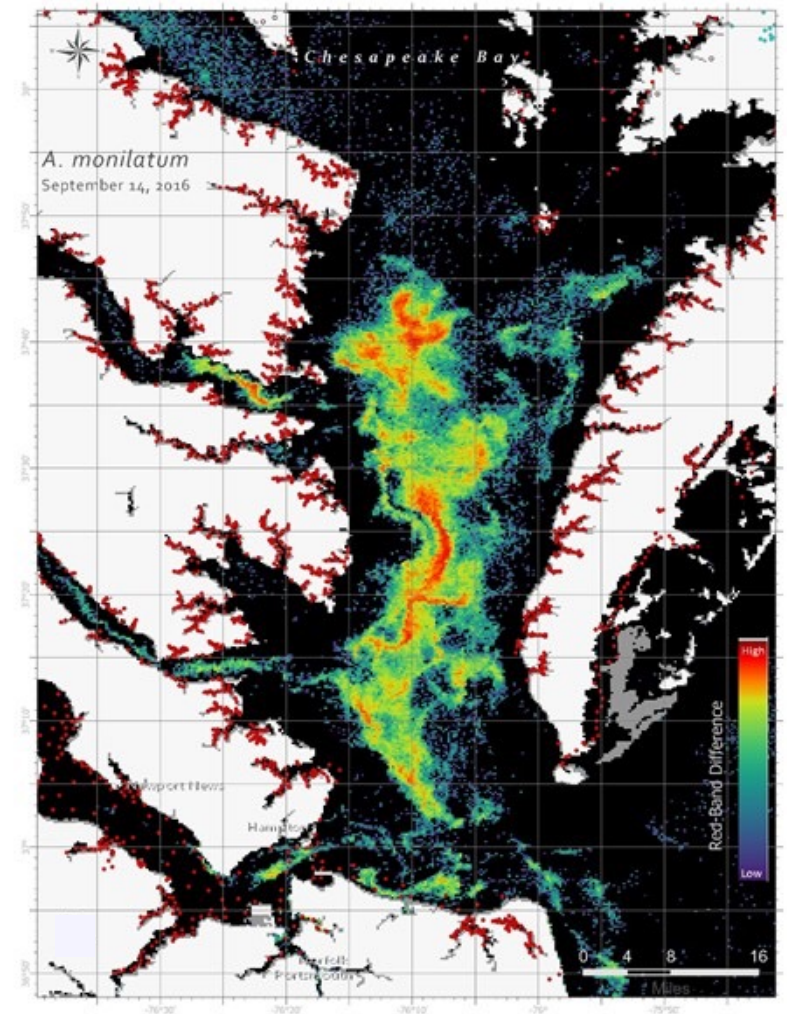
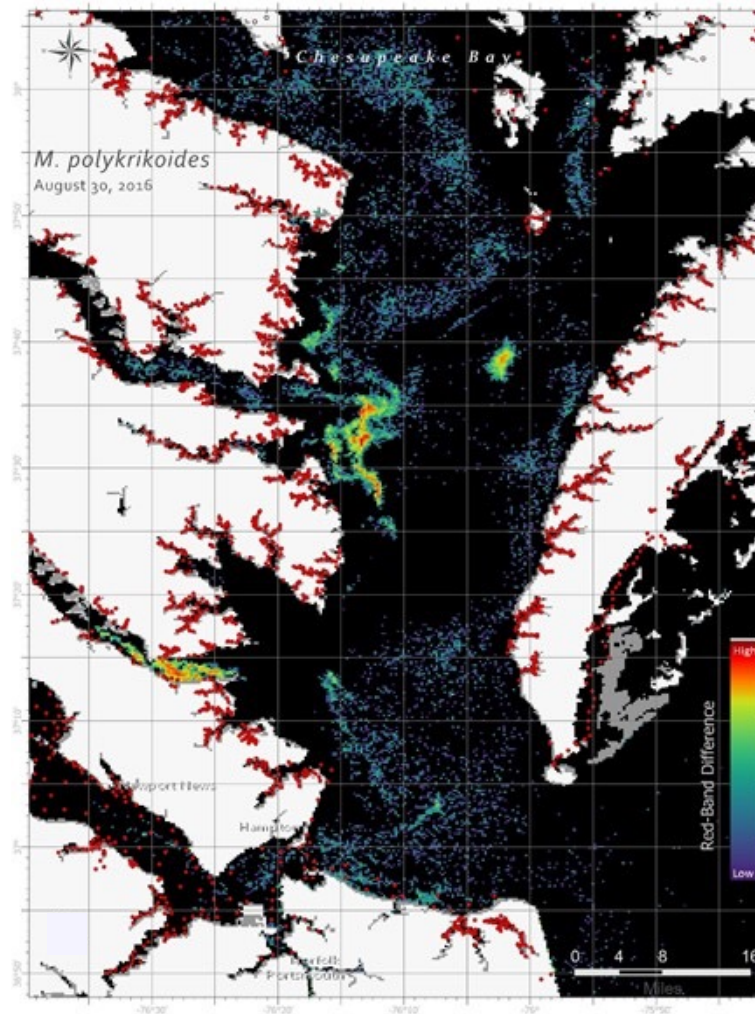
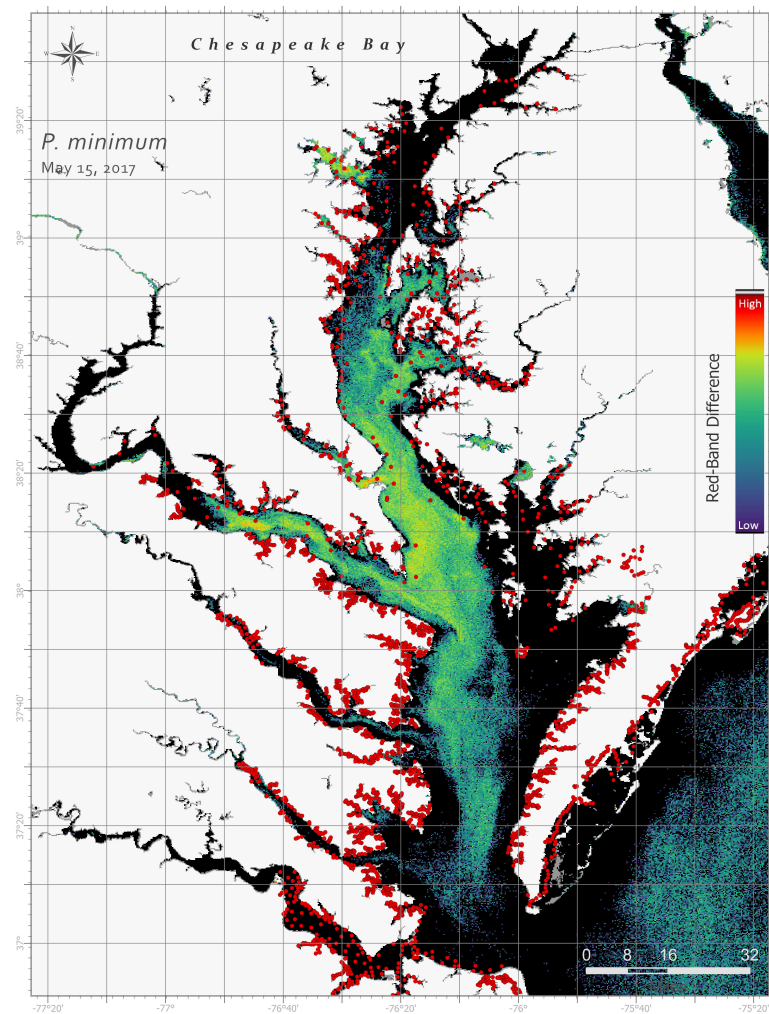


# Early results and next steps

- Implementing ML semantic segmentation pipeline modules (U-Net CNN, SegNET, LSTM)
- Evaluating applicable data augmentation strategies for training, e.g. GAN for generating extra training examples utilizing weakly annotated data, i.e. in situ measurements, physical conditions, run-off
- Next: resume data collection and analysis: target poor water quality; distinguish pertinent amino acids, e.g. tyrosine/tryptophan, brighteners.
- Analyze spectral ratios of phytoplankton pigments and bacteria regions within complex CDOM absorption and fluorescence spectra
- Analyze high resolution commercial satellite data in combination with sampling, including DESIS (hyperspectral, 30m with 5m PAN band, launched 2019)



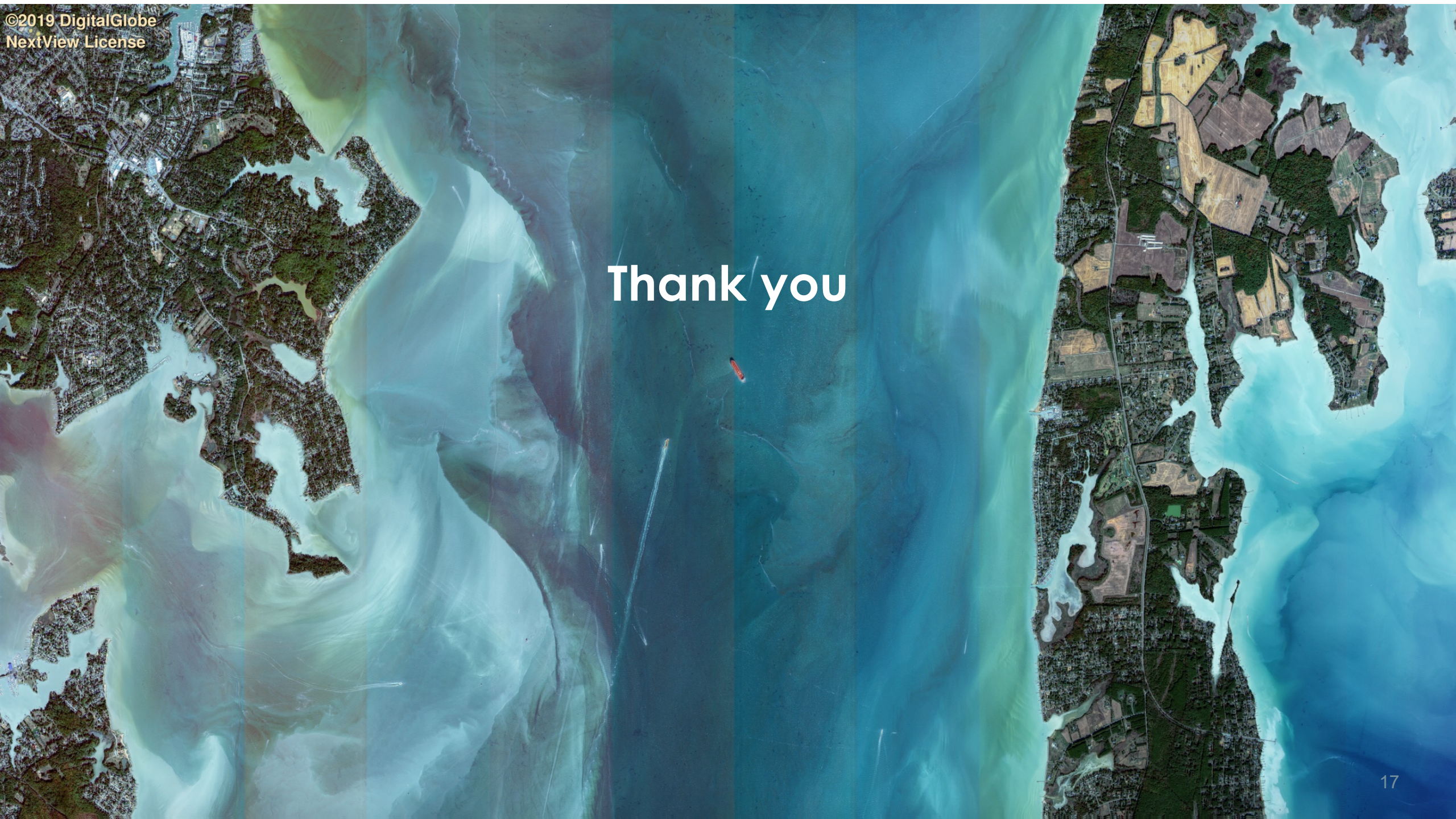
# Harmful Algal Bloom detection in the Chesapeake Bay



[https://coastwatch.noaa.gov/cw\\_html/NCCOS.html](https://coastwatch.noaa.gov/cw_html/NCCOS.html)

Wolny, J.L., M.C. Tomlinson, S. Schollaert Uz, T.A. Egerton, J.R. McKay, A. Meredith, K.S. Reece, G.P. Scott, and R.P. Stumpf, 2020, Current and Future Remote Sensing of Harmful Algal Blooms in the Chesapeake Bay to Support the Shellfish Industry, *Front. Mar. Sci.*, doi:10.3389/fmars.2020.00337





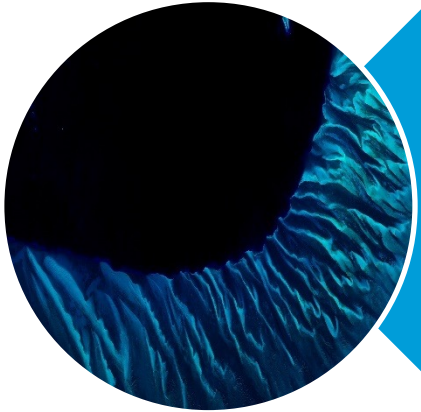
Thank you



Backup slides



# Trade-offs in Satellite Technology



## Trade-off in spectral vs spatial resolution

- More narrow spectral bands → Larger bins or pixels
- Few broad spectral bands → Smaller pixel



## Trade-off in frequency vs spatial resolution

- Larger pixel → More frequent revisit
- Smaller pixel → Less frequent revisit



## Digital Globe, Planet, etc.

- High spatial <1 m
- Low spectral & uncalibrated
- Low temporal, upon tasking (not guaranteed)

## Landsat OLI, Sentinel2 MSI

- Medium spatial (10-30 m), Global coastal
- Low spectral (3 channels & sun glint issues)
- Low temporal (8-16 day revisit)

## MODIS, S3 OLCI Ocean Color

- Low spatial (300-1000 m), Global
- High spectral (5 nm bands)
- Medium temporal (2 day revisit)

## GLIMR Geostationary

- Medium spatial (30 m), Regional over GoMex, U.S.
- High spectral (10 nm bands)
- High temporal (Several looks per day)

## Aircraft and Drones

- High spatial (1-10 m) Local
- Potentially high spectral (5 nm bands)
- Event and permission-specific (i.e. away from airports and > 50mi from U.S. Capitol)



# NASA EARTH FLEET

OPERATING & FUTURE THROUGH 2023

SWOT (CNES)

LANDSAT-9 (USGS) SENTINEL-6 Michael Freilich/B (ESA)

TROPICS (6)

NISAR (ISRO)

TSIS-2

PREFIRE (2)

GLIMR

GEOCARB

MAIA

TEMPO

PACE (NSO)

ICESAT-2

GRACE-FO (2) (DLR)

CYGNSS (8)

NISTAR, EPIC (DSCOVR/NOAA)

CLOUDSAT (CSA)

TERRA (JAXA, CSA)

AQUA (JAXA, AEB)

AURA (NSO, FMI, UKSA)

CALIPSO (CNES)

GPM (JAXA)

LANDSAT 7 (USGS)

LANDSAT 8 (USGS)

OCO-2

SMAP

SUOMI NPP (NOAA) (JAXA)

## INVEST/CUBESATS

RainCube

CSIM-FD

CubeRRT

TEMPEST-D

CIRiS

HARP

CTIM

HyTI

SNoOPI

NACHOS

## ISS INSTRUMENTS

EMIT

CLARREO-PF

GEDI

SAGE III

OCO-3

TSIS-1

ECOSTRESS

LIS

## JPSS-2, 3 & 4 INSTRUMENTS

OMPS-Limb

LIBERA

03.24.20

(PRE) FORMULATION ●

IMPLEMENTATION ●

PRIMARY OPS ●

EXTENDED OPS ●



# Mission Study on Surface Biology and Geology

## SBG Science and Applications Objectives from the 5 Decadal Survey Panels

Flows of energy, carbon, water, and nutrients sustaining the life cycle of terrestrial and marine ecosystems

Variability of the land surface and the fluxes of water, energy and momentum

Composition and temperature of volcanic products immediately following eruptions

Snow accumulation, melt, and spectral albedo

Inventory the world's volcanos and geology of exposed land surfaces

The global carbon cycle and associated climate and ecosystem impacts

Monthly terrestrial CO<sub>2</sub> fluxes at 100 km scale

Functional traits and diversity of terrestrial and aquatic vegetation

Land and water use effects, surface temperatures, evapotranspiration

Water balance from headwaters to the continent